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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Korea	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]
SUBJECT	Pukch'angp'yŏng-dong Number 2 National Farm and Rice Distribution Center, North Hamgyŏng Province	DATE DISTR.	10 February 1954
		NO. OF PAGES	2
DATE OF INFO.	[REDACTED]	REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
PLACE ACQUIRED	[REDACTED]	25X1A	REFERENCES

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Pukch'angp'yŏng-dong Number 2 National Farm

1. In June 1953 the office of the Pukch'angp'yŏng-dong (N 42-47, E 129-56) (EC-7637) Number 2 National Farm in North Hamgyŏng Province was east of the Pukch'angp'yŏng-dong highway at EC-767371, in a building 10 meters long, 6 meters wide, and 3 meters high, with red brick walls and a tin roof. Three meters east was a building for storage which was 7 meters long, 3 meters wide, and 2.5 meters high, with black tin walls and a tin roof. Both of these buildings had been used by the Japanese Army during the Japanese occupation of Korea.
2. The manager of the farm was a former Vice-Minister of Agriculture in North Korea. There was also an assistant manager, and the following sections: production, fiscal, administration, staff members, labor, and statistics. Approximately 30 people were employed in the office. Section chiefs received a salary of 1,500 won a month, technicians 1,300 won a month, and clerks 1,000 won a month, in addition to rations for their families.
3. There were about 1,000 laborers employed at the farm. About 85 percent were people who had lost all their material goods in the war, 15 percent survivors of dead soldiers, and 5 percent destitute farmers. Ninety percent had families with them, the remainder being bachelors. Sixty percent of the laborers were women. The laborers received 1,000 won and a grain allotment of 1,000 grams per month. They received pay for official holidays. However, both won and grain were deducted from their pay for absences due to personal reasons. The total number of people attached to the farm, including the families of the laborers, was approximately 3,000. The housing facilities of the farm were not sufficient to accommodate all of these people; so, through the cooperation of the village People's Committee, some had obtained rooms in the homes of civilians in the area. About five percent of the laborers lived in grass huts built on the mountain sides. Some of the laborers had quit the farm, and returned to their homes after finding that the living conditions were not as good as the recruiters for the farm had pictured them.

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4. The farm was equipped with seven Soviet-made tractors, two Soviet-made 4 x 2 ZIS-150 cargo trucks, and 100 oxen. The farm fields were in the mountain valleys in Yangsu-dong (EC-717385), Koulchidaech'on (EC-755375), Chung-ni (EC-747369), Changp'o (EC-775365), Modok-tong (EC-795375), Sowon-dong (EC-783375)¹, and Pukch'angp'yong-dong (EC-765375). The total area farmed was about 1,000 acres, 93 percent of which was newly cultivated land. Beans, corn, and barley were usually produced in these fields. After the establishment of the farm in February 1953, a Soviet adviser had inspected the farm and had stated that the land would be more suitable for pasture for breeding cattle.

Pukch'angp'yong-dong Rice Distribution Center

5. In June 1953 the Pukch'angp'yong-dong Rice Distribution Center was at EC-766369 in a house 12 meters long, 5.5 meters wide, and 2.5 meters high, with a tile roof and mud walls. The house was surrounded by barbed wire, and in a garden south of the house were about ten apricot trees and a "Liberation" monument.
6. A manager, two clerks, and two laborers were employed at the Center, which was opened in February 1953 when the Pukch'angp'yong-dong Number 2 National Farm was started. The Center distributed rice and other foodstuffs only to laborers working at the National Farm and to their families. Distribution was made every ten days. The Center was always short on supplies.

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1. Comment. Possibly Sowon-gol (EC-7837).

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